

### --- “Series of 1883” - Fifteen Pounds - Black - COUPON Stamp ---

Chris Ryan (“Canadian Revenue Newsletter”, No. 41, March 2003) reports that the fifteen pound denomination was one of the original Series introduced on July 1st 1883. Thus it is found on *block wmkd* paper.

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The catalogue lists the recess printed fifteen pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

**RM-256c** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue controls  
*long wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an **188** stub

**RM-256** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue controls,  
*long wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an **188** stub

**RM-257** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue controls,  
*short wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an **188** stub

**RM-258** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 5 mm. blue controls,  
*short wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an **189** stub

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<b>3rd BABN Contract</b> (1878-1886)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 658,750 copies of “15 lb., Black Coupon” by hand press
<b>4th BABN Contract</b> (1886-1892)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 1,065,250 copies of “15 lb., Black Coupon” = 563,520 by hand press + 501,730 by rotary press.
<b>5th BABN Contract</b> (1892-1897)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 942,000 copies of “15 lb., Black Coupon” = 33,580 by hand press + 908,420 by rotary press
<b>5th BABN Supplement</b> (1897-1898)	John McKay records as ‘delivered’ 181,850 copies of “15 lb. Black Coupon” by rotary press

1,255,850 by hand press and 1,592,000 by rotary press = 2,847,850 total

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### --- The “theoretical” control number range on the 15 pound black Coupon stamp ---

<b>3rd BABN Contract</b>	658,750	- <b>000001</b> to <b>658750</b>
<b>4th BABN Contract</b>	1,065,250	- <b>658751</b> to 1- <b>724000</b>
<b>5th BABN Contract</b>	942,000	- 1- <b>724001</b> to 2- <b>666000</b>
<b>5th BABN Supplement</b>	181,850	- 2- <b>666001</b> to 2- <b>847850</b>
	2,847,850	

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### --- The “actual” control number range on the 15 pound black Coupon stamp, as recorded to date ---

15 pounds, black, <i>block wmkd</i> wove - 4 mm. controls -	<b>022535</b> to <b>034420</b>
15 pounds, black, <i>unwmkd</i> wove - 4 mm. controls -	<b>676451</b> to 1- <b>427819</b>
15 pounds, black, <i>unwmkd</i> wove - <u>5 mm.</u> controls	2- <b>078766</b> to 2- <b>157616</b>

At this time BABN did not run their control sequence past six digits and upon reaching **999999** simply began anew at **000001** (their successor ABN used the same system). I have affixed a leading “1-”, “2-” into the control numbers in an attempt to separate the four sections. It wasn’t until they finally began the P-strips of Series “C” in 1935 that they introduced the leading letter “A”, “B”, etc. to successive control number sequences. This process was an offshoot (taken from the BABN “Series of 1868” cigar strips) where BABN actually inscribed the “million prefix” as a large central “A”, “B” and “C” on their master die.

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--- RM-256c - Fifteen Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed by hand press on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 113 x 62 mm. plus nine ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait - scanned at 200% scale ---



The catalogue lists this recess printed fifteen pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

**RM-256c** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue controls  
*long wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 15 pound black Coupon stamp ---

3rd BABN Contract

658,750

- 000001 to 658750



★ **RM-256c** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, with 4 mm. control **022535**, on *block wmkd* vertical mesh wove,  
cancelled **8.17 9 '83** by “Adam’s Tobacco”, Montreal, in November 1883

**022535** ★      11/83      RM-256c

15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 19 pounds, block wmkd  
wove, stamped **8.17 9 '83**

**033856**                      RM-256c

15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 15½ pounds, block wmkd

**034420** ★      12/83      RM-256c

15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17½ pounds, on block wmkd  
wove, stamped **1-17 11 '83**

--- RM-256 - Fifteen Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 4th BABN Contract - 1886-90 ---

--- Recess printed on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue control numbers---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm., plus nine ½ pound coupons and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

The catalogue lists this recess printed fifteen pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

**RM-256** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue controls, *long wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an 188\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 15 pound black Coupon stamp ---

4th BABN Contract

1,065,250 total - 658751 to 1-225816



★**RM-256** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS, with 4 mm. control **784262**, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, stub dated 188\_, with nine 1/2 pound coupons

<b>676451</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled <b>TOBACCO / 1-17</b>
<b>679572</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled <b>TOBACCO / 1-17</b>
<b>746559</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled <b>TOBACCO / 1-17</b>
<b>784251</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, CWC, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
<b>784262</b> ★	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, stub dated 188_
<b>784263</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, CWC, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
<b>824184</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled <b>TOBACCO / 1-17</b>
<b>856321</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
<b>1-176495</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 16 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
<b>1-186520</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 15½ pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
<b>1-237056</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
<b>1-225816</b>	RM-256	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 18 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove

By 1-**350933** while still under the **4th Contract** and using *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove paper, **BABN** had begun **RM-257** with the *short wreath* around the Queen’s head. See the following pages:



--- Fifteen Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 3rd BABN Contract - 1883-86 ---

--- Recess printed on *unwmkd* vertical mesh wove - *with 4 mm. violet Gothic controls* ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus nine ½ pound coupons - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *long wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

All of the stamps (bearing 4 mm. Gothic *purple control numbers*) seem to come from the “Series of 1883”. In a similar parallel, all of the stamps bearing the 5 mm. light blue Roman controls seem to come from the “Series of 1880-81”. I feel that these were prepared by BABN for Philatelic Exhibitions in 1880-81, and in the mid-1880’s, or they were special “presentation” sets. Many can be found on *block wmkd* paper which indicates that they came from about 1883-84.

There are a couple dozen examples in the collection most of which came from the “Ferrari” collection purchased from Erling van Dam. None of the other stamps in the “Ferrari” collection dated from later then 1900. Possibly these stamps came from “presentation” sets prepared for prominent philatelists.



★RM-256 - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, CWC, with 4 mm. Gothic violet control number **14297**, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove

--- without control numbering ---



★RM-256n - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, CWCS, without control numbers, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, with the stub dated **188**\_, and nine 1/2 pound coupons

--- RM-257 - Fifteen Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 4th BABN Contract - 1886-92 ---

--- Recess printed on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus nine ½ pound coupons and an 188\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *short wreath* around the Queen’s portrait - scanned at 200% scale ---



The catalogue lists this recess printed fifteen pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamp as follows:

**RM-257** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 4 mm. blue controls, *short wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an **188\_** stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 15 pound black Coupon stamp ---

4th BABN Contract

1,065,250 total - 1-**225816** to 1-**724000**



★**RM-257** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, with 4 mm. blue control 1-**350933**, *short wreath* on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, rolled **TOBACCO / 2-8** by “B. Houde & Co.”, Quebec City

1- <b>350933</b> ★	RM-257	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled <b>TOBACCO / 2-8</b>
1- <b>425072</b>	RM-257	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 18½ pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
1- <b>425073</b>	RM-257	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 18½ pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
1- <b>425074</b>	RM-257	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 19 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
1- <b>425078</b>	RM-257	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 19 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove
1- <b>427819</b>	RM-257	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 18½ pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, rolled <b>TOBACCO / P-4</b> by the tobacco merchant “Wm. Cummings & Co.” Truro, N.S.

--- RM-258 - Fifteen Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 5th BABN Contract - 1892-97 ---

--- Recess printed on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 5 mm. blue control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus nine ½ pound coupons and an 189\_ stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *short wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

The catalogue lists the recess printed fifteen pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

**RM-258** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 5 mm. blue controls, *short wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an 189\_ stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 15 pound black Coupon stamp ---

5th BABN Contract

942,000

- 1-724001 to 2-666000



★**RM-258** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, with 5 mm. control number 2-092570, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, rolled **TOBACCO / P-30** by the licensed tobacco merchant “Sewell Brothers” in Hamilton, Ontario

2-078766	RM-258	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled by the Tobacco Merchant <b>TOBACCO / D-26</b>
2-079952 ★	RM-258	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled by the Tobacco Merchant <b>TOBACCO / V-26</b>
2-092570 ★	RM-258	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove, roller cancelled <b>TOBACCO / P-30</b> by the Tobacco Merchant “Sewell Brothers” in Hamilton, Ontario
2-157616	RM-258	15 pounds, black, perf 12, clipped at 17 pounds, on <i>unwmkd</i> wove,

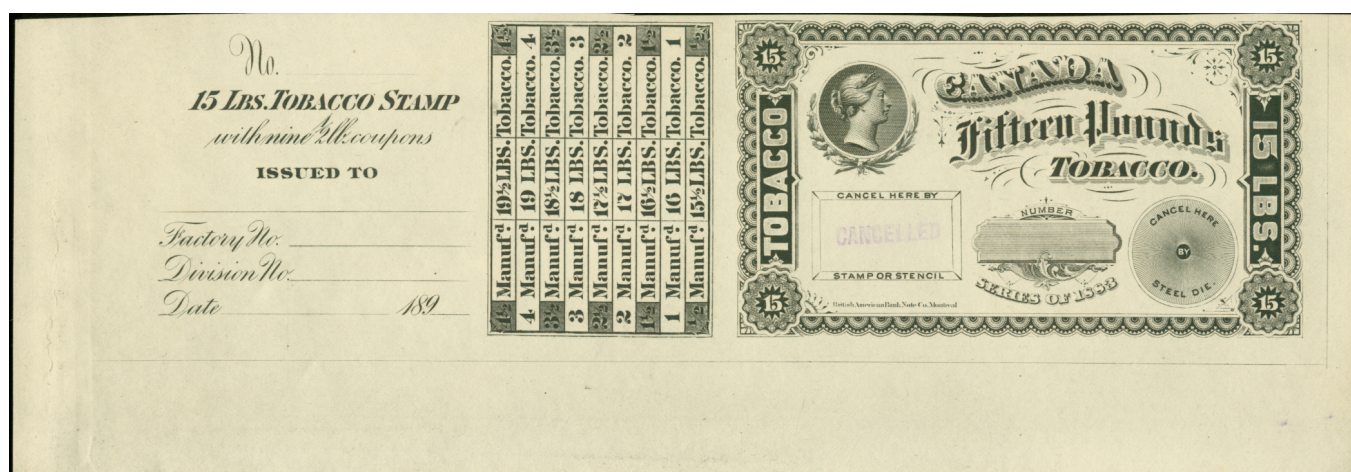
In 1874 (thus under the **2nd Contract**) BABN transferred their operations from Ottawa to Montreal, where they remained until 1887 when forced, under terms of the **4th Contract**, to return to Ottawa.

Thus there are the two different BABN imprints on their tobacco stamps - the 55 mm. “Montreal & Ottawa”, and the 42 mm. “Montreal” only. The two control number sizes can be divided, by the same reasoning, into the 4 mm. controls (during the 1874-1887 Montreal stay), and the 5 mm. controls (from Ottawa pre-1874 and post-1887).





**RM-256 PP** - 15 pounds, black, CWCS, without control numbers, a plate proof, recess printed on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - scanned at 70% scale, with the stub dated **189**\_, and nine 1/2 pound coupons - *from the collection of Fritz Angst*



★**RM-256 PP / CP** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, without control numbers, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove, plate proof stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic, stub dated **189**\_, with nine 1/2 pound coupons - scanned at 65% scale

--- RM-258 - Fifteen Pounds - “Series of 1883” - Black - 5th ABN Supplement - 1897-98 ---

--- Recess printed on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 5 mm. blue control numbers ---

--- Perf 12 - 115 x 62 mm. plus nine ½ pound coupons and an *189\_* stub - scanned at 70% scale ---

--- With the *short wreath* around the Queen’s portrait ---

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The catalogue lists the recess printed fifteen pound black “Series of 1883” COUPON stamps as follows:

**RM-258** - 15 pounds, black, perf 12, on *unwmkd* horizontal mesh wove - with 5 mm. blue controls,  
*short wreath* with nine ½ pound coupons, and an *189\_* stub

--- The “theoretical” control number range on this 15 pound black Coupon stamp ---

5th ABN Supplement	181,850	- 2- <b>666001</b> to 2- <b>847850</b>
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These, printed under the **5th BABN Contract**, had remained in stock when BABN lost the printing contract to ABN in 1897. By mutual agreement they were made available to the Inland Revenue Department while ABN worked ‘up-to-speed’ with the die preparation and the printing of the “Series of 1897”. The dies and the stamps were Federal property.

The collection *does not contain* a copy of **RM-258** with control numbers in this range. **WANTED!**

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File path is [ c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RM\_STAMPS \ COUPON \ 1883 \ Black \ 15 pounds,  
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